

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-11, 14, 15, and 17-19 remain in the application with claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 14, and 19 having been amended hereby and claims 5, 7, 12, 13, and 16 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-6, 12-15, and 17 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Kihara et al. in view of Wong et al. and the so-called admitted prior art at pages 1 and 2 of the instant application.

Notice is respectfully taken of the indication that claims 7-9, 11, 16, and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended hereby to include the allowable subject matter of claim 7, with claim 5 also being included in claim 1. Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled. Claim 14 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 16. Claim 17 depends from claim 14 that includes the allowable subject matter of claim 16.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6, 12-15, and 17 are patentably distinct over the cited references by reason of the inclusion of the allowable subject matter therein.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 10 and 18 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Kihara et al., Wong et al., and the so-

called admitted prior art and further in view of Youngberg.

Claim 10 depends from claim 1, which now includes the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claim 18 depends from claim 14, which now includes the allowable subject matter of claim 16.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 10 and 18 are patentably distinct over the cited references.

Allowable claims 11 and 19 have both been placed in independent form.

Accordingly, by reason of the amendments made to the claims hereby to include the allowable subject matter as well as the cancellation of selected claims, it is respectfully submitted that all claims remaining in this application are now in condition for allowance.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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